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January 29, 2002

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Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Art Unit 1647

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Appl. No. 09/518,190; Filed: March 2, 2000

For: Nucleic Acid Constructs Involved in the Regulation of Protein

Secretion (as amended)

Inventors:

Hesketh et al.

Our Ref:

0623.0820001/EKS/PSC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Reply to Restriction Requirement and Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
- 2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents January 29, 2002 Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Eric K. Steffe

Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 36,688

EKS/PSC/lam Enclosures

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